THIS YEAR'S SPRING FASHION TRENDS, PG 16





New health minister halts bed closures

HEALTH Alberta's beleaguered Tory government is halting some unpopular bed closures at hospitals in Edmonton and Calgary the second major reversal this week.

The province's health superboard announced in September that about 300 acute-care beds would be closed to help reduce a \$1billion deficit

But Premier Ed Stelmach's new health minister, Gene Zwozdesky, ordered the superboard yesterday not to proceed with the closures. Alberta Health Services has been able "to find some efficiencies" that will allow the beds to remain open, said the minister.

MORE HEALTH COVERAGE, PAGE 2

News on the Maye

What's this barcode for? Learn how to scar the barcode with



Vancouver Games

Countdown

to 2010

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ay — Unlike Cypress Mountain on Vancouver's North Shore, Whistler's **Olympic venues** page 14

On the web

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Edmonton Oilers' Lubomir Visnovsky, right, of Slovakia, collides with Vancouver Canucks' Mason Raymond during first period NHL hockey action in Edmonton yesterday. The Canucks won 3-2 in overtime. More coverage, page 13

Adoptions fast-tracked

Children waiting in Haiti get boost — but no other rules relaxed

Haiti Crisis

Canada is taking steps to speed some adoptions of Haitian children following last week's disastrous earthquake.

Officials will expedite adoptions that were already underway and had received preliminary approvals before the magnitude-7.0 quake struck lan. 12, Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said yester-

The federal government

has tapped provincial authorities for lists of Haitian adoptions and it is consulting Haitian authorities on "fast-tracking" their foreign-adoption approval process, Kenney said.

About 100 adoption cases have been identified and all prospective parents were to be contacted by noon yesterday.

Once the Haitian government confirms the status of individual cases. Kenney said he's directed his officials to issue temporary resident permits — "an ex-traordinary measure" — to allow qualified children to enter Canada quickly. 'Regular processing fees

will be waived and the federal government will cover health costs until they can be covered under provin-cial programs," Kenney told the government's dai-ly briefing on Haiti. "We are working urgently with the provinces to identify all of the relevant adoption cases that we can act on.'

He encouraged prospec-tive parents who have Haitian adoption cases underway and have not yet been contacted to call or

write federal officials.

Kenney cautioned, however, that Canada is not opening its doors to a flood of new adoption cases nor other immigrants from the earthquake zone.

Waiving the rules or dropping restrictions "has never been done before by Canada or any other country," he said. "Massive resettlement is not a solution to natural disaster. The solution is reconstruction, and we're focused and dedicated to that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS MORE COVERAGE, PAGES 2, 4 & 7

Police seek driver of bloodied Dodge

DEATH A blood-stained Dodge Neon could be the key to solving the December murder of 21-year-old Melvin Hansen, EPS homicide detectives said yesterday in a public plea to help identify the Neon's driver.

Hansen was found dead on the lawn of a home near 90 Street and 130 Avenue on Dec. 12, two blocks south of a pub where he was shooting pool with friends.

Detectives believe the suspects found Hansen standing outside the pub, exited the vehicle, and chased him on foot to the

"He

would

have to

known at

least one

of them."

have

location where his body was found the next day.

"He would have to have known at least one of them, or there would Det. be no

Rob Mills reason for

him to run," EPS homicide Det. Rob Mills said. The car — a 1995 white

Dodge Neon with tinted black windows and a spoiler - was found two weeks later in a motel parking lot on 51 Avenue and Gateway Boulevard.

DNA testing confirmed blood splattered inside the car was Hansen's.

Mills said it isn't believed the car's owner is linked to the killing.

Police are asking anyone with information to come

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Local



Our Common Future in Afghanistan

The theme of the University of Alberta's 25th International Week is To Boldly Go: Charting Our Common Future. Recently returned from Afghanistan, Brig.-Gen. Jon Vance, left, and Rhonda Gossen of the Canadian International Development Agency will join members of the local community to screen and discuss Good Morning Kandahar, an NFB film that gives voice to the dilemmas felt by Afghans around the world as they grapple with events in their homeland. Vance will speak Feb. 1. Check the complete program at www.iweek.ualberta.ca. METRO EDMONTON

News in brief

MAN SHOT City cops shot a man in the leg yesterday night after an erratic driver allegedly drove directly in the path of a police car with two officers inside at a parking lot near 144 Avenue and 82 Street. Police fired a single shot, which struck the passenger of the black Jeep Cherokee. The 33-year-old driver was arrested.

METRO EDMONTON

EdmontonTweets

@epscst_chan My respects go out to **RCMP** Supt. Coates and Sgt. Gallagher - deployed as members of the UN policepeace keeping mission in Haiti. #yeg

Conutsandoum Unless they hold a Festivus airing of grievances & feats of strength competition, no one should attend the #Oilers skills competition #yeq

@DebraWard This morning's tweeting is from the Dentists chair! #YEG

metrenews.ca WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Among the criticism of the world's response to the tragedy in Haiti.



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Getting physical for cancer fight | 'We decided to

FUNDRAISING Sometimes, reliving movies such as Flashdance and kicking it to '80s music in neon T-shirts, headbands and leggings can help save lives.

Women and men of all ages gathered at the New-Cap Stage at West Edmonton Mall yesterday to "get physical" and help launch this year's Weekend to End Women's Cancers.

"We were excited to launch the event and to get people interested and excited about it, and to show that it is a lot of work and exercise involved," said Christy Soholt, communications and marketing associate with the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

With a new name and a new sponsor, the Shoppers Drug Mart Weekend to End Women's Cancers (formerly the Weekend to End Breast Cancer) will hit Edmonton the weekend of Aug. 6.

"Let's expand it and let's make a big impact on all women's cancers, and that is what we are introducing this year," said Soholt.

This August, hundreds of people will proudly hit Ed-



Karlene Buller, 6, joins her mother and a group of people decked out in '80s workout gear for the official launch of the Shoppers Drug Mart Weekend to End Women's Cancers (formerly the Weekend to End Breast Cancer) vesterday at West Edmonton Mall.

monton streets in the fight to end breast and other women's cancers in a 60kilometre or the new 30kilometre walk.

"This event makes such a huge impact on cancer re-search in Alberta," said Soholt. "It is just fantastic."

As a cancer survivor herself and someone who has completed the walk. Soholt offered future walkers a few

tips. "You do need to train and

you do need to get excited about fundraising," said Soholt. "It is work, but your money goes to such a great

This event has resulted in over \$21 million in investments in breast cancer research over the past five years. All the money raised will support life-saving cancer research and care in Edmonton at the Cross Cancer CANDICE WARD/

FOR METRO EDMONTON

open the valve'

Vidéotron waives fees for Haiti calls; other providers have yet to follow

Haiti

A Quebec telecommunications company has waived all long-distance fees to those desperately attempting to reach loved ones in Haiti, though no other phone providers in Canada have followed suit.

"This major community of people is trying to reach their own folks to see if they're alive and what's left there. We're sure as hell not going to charge them," Vidéotron spokesman Marc Labelle told Metro yester-

The Montreal-based landline provider will waive all fees on calls made to Haiti from the moment the 7.0magnitude quake hit, and will continue until Feb. 12.

Officials from the big three Canadian landline and wireless providers -Telus, Rogers and Bell confirmed to Metro yesterday they have not waived long-distance fees to Haiti.

"We know phone calls are ineffective," said Bell spokesman Jeff Meerman.

"The destruction of the telecom industry (in Haiti) is pretty widespread. For that reason, people who are trying to get though just

But Labelle claimed the contrary, and said Vidéotron customers have placed "well over" 200,000 successful calls to Haiti since Jan. 12.

"We decided to open the valve," he said, adding the company received confirmation from a Dominican Republic-based telecom supplier that calls could be connected.

U.S. providers Verizon Wireless, T-Mobile and Cricket Wireless are also offering customers free longdistance calls to Haiti

Telus, Rogers and Bell spokesmen said each of their companies has, however, made corporate contributions amassing in hundreds of thousands to relief efforts, and are collecting customer donations via text messaging.

Per-minute long-distance rates from Canada to Haiti range between \$0.35 to \$1.73 on the Rogers, Bell and Telus land and wireless networks.

Meerman suggested customers concerned about costs call the emergency operations centre in Ottawa at 1-800-387-3124. While the centre can't provide free calls to Haiti, it can take inquiries and try to locate missing Canadians in the COUNTIY. VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/

METRO EDMONTON

Fourth man arrested after prisoner's escape

CRIME A fourth man allegedly connected to a prisoner's brazen escape from custody in Hamilton, Ont., has been arrested in Alber-

RCMP in St. Albert, northwest of Edmonton, notified Hamilton police last night that 20-year-old Aram Hadi had been arrested.

Three other men alleged-

ly involved in helping Fawad Nouri escape his prison guards at Hamilton General Hospital on Nov. 24 are already in custody

Nouri was being escorted out of the hospital when two armed and masked men jumped the two guards and freed the 25year-old. Nouri - who was in custody on charges of armed robbery and forcible confinement - was arrested within days of the escape. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Researchers look for perfect curling shot

CANDICE WARD for Metro Edmonton

ATHLETICS Finally, a world where academics and athletics co-exist together to fine-tune and perfect the mechanics of a sport to bring Canadian athletes to

the top of the podium.

Researchers at the University of Alberta have been working on the science behind a perfectly delivered curling rock to help the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic teams achieve gold this February in Vancouver.

"The goal was to have everybody playing better than maybe they otherwise would have played," said Rob Krepps, head coach at the National Training Centre in Edmonton and member of Canada's women's Olympic curling team.

Partnered with U of A researcher Pierre Baudin, the duo and a research team have spent over three years working on this project.

Transforming the ice at the U of A's Saville Training Centre into a high-tech research lab, the team has been able to record data using state-of-the-art video and motion sensors to calculate the science behind the centuries-old game.

"Understanding that many things contribute to performance, and technique is only one of them," said Krepps.

With this new technology the 2010 Canadian Olympic and Paralympic curling teams may be able to clean the house in the medal standings.

"They will have the chance to be a team that displays technical excellence," said Krepps.

Panel calls for creation of patient charter

HEALTH A government-appointed review panel is recommending a patient charter be created to guide Albertans on what to expect from the health system.

The report says the patient charter should be developed in consultation with Albertans.

The report also calls for an Alberta health act that would "reflect a publicly funded health system that is accessible to all regardless of ability to pay."

Review panel co-chair Deborah Prowse says Albertans repeatedly said they felt they weren't being adequately consulted on the direction of health care

The 16-member panel spent a year gathering data mainly through an Internet survey.

The report has been presented to Health Minister Gene Zwozdesky, who will review the recommendations before commenting.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cops seek public's help with robbery

CRIME Police are seeking public assistance in identifying suspects in a "disturbing" robbery at south side Sawmill restaurant around 8:45 Tuesday night.

Police say two men dressed in dark clothing entered the packed restaurant on Gateway Boulevard brandishing a machete and a replica gun, and demanded cash.

They fled in a dark-coloured Honda, which may have been a two-door Civic with an Alberta licence plate bearing the letters "ZAS."

Robbery detectives say they're concerned by the incident, especially due to the "level of violence used" and the volume of staff and customers present.

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Quebec couple shot in Mexico recovering

4

A Quebec couple is recovering in hospital after being shot during a robbery attempt in Mexico, CBC News Online reports. The couple, who were staying in the Pacific resort town of Ixtapa north of Acapulco, were cycling outside the hotel zone Tuesday when armed men tried to rob them, police said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada



Ontario's top cop served summons

Ontario's top police officer has been served with a summons over an allegation he influenced or attempted to influence municipal officials. Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Julian Fantino, left, confirmed that he received a summons yesterday and says he intends to vigorously defend himself. Activist Gary McHale alleges that the commissioner sent an email in 2007 telling the mayor and councillors in Caledonia, Ont., not to attend McHale's rallies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Haitian-born cops head home to help

Montreal officers to aid shaken nation

Haiti Crisis

A contingent of Haitianborn Montreal police officers is hitting the streets in quake-ravaged Port-au-Prince armed only with an unshakeable will to do whatever they can to help.

The group, which arrived yesterday, isn't wearing their uniforms or carrying their sidearms because their presence as police officers hasn't been formally requested by the United Nations, which is co-ordinating relief efforts.

The officers, accompa-

Civilians

• The Montreal officers are going as civilians because they have not yet been called upon by the UN for their services.

nied by Montreal police Chief Yvan Delorme, are part of a group of 100 people travelling on a humanitarian mission to the Caribbean country where an estimated 200,000 people were killed by a massive earthquake last week.

Most of the 18 officers are Haitian-born and some haven't yet heard what happened to their own families. But Delorme said the group is well connected in that country and hoping to make an impact in any way possible.

Delorme, who is not Haitian, but who has visited the country, is leading the mission code-named Koudmen—Creole for helping hand.

Among the group is Jean-Ernest Celestin, the city's first Haitian-born officer to hold the rank of district commander. He said the officers on the mission are eager to link up with a group of Montreal police officers who lived through the quake. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa Disabled serviceman seeks compensation



Daniel Hamelin of Montreal, a disabled military serviceman, reacts as he provides testimony on discrimination he received regarding payment of long term disability payments by the federal government, during a news conference in Ottawa, vesterday.

Jacmel a hub for relief efforts

Haiti Crisis

ASSISTANCE The coastal town of Jacmel is abuzz with activity as its tiny airport is being turned into a new point of entry for disaster relief, bypassing the supply bottleneck in the Haitian capital.

aster reliet, bypassing the supply bottleneck in the Haitian capital.

Jacmel — the backdrop for many of Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean's childhood memories in Haiti — is becoming a regional hub for the delivery of aid to earth-

quake victims along the southern coast of Haiti.

"Canada is starting to ferry troops in through Jacmel airport because the PaP (Port-au-Prince) airport is so congested," Col. Bruce Ewing of the Canadian Forces said yesterday.

"This is becoming an alternate way in for Canadians to move not just to Jacmel, but throughout the country," he said. "This is going to be a hub for Canadian Forces personnel."

The airstrip is small, making it a challenge for

large planes to land. Still, a seemingly endless stream of aircraft was using the airport.

Even a Canadian military Hercules transport landed with personnel and equipment for the Disaster Assistance Response Team, or DART, although it was apparently not fully loaded to ensure that it could safely use the undersized runway.

Jacmel city has between 50,000 and 70,000 people; the greater Jacmel region has a total population of 120,000. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feeling constrained?



Despite gang war, murder rate drops in Vancouver

CRIME There were fewer killings in Vancouver last year than the year before, despite a bloody gang war that raged throughout the region, Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu said yesterday.

Chu and Mayor Gregor

Chu and Mayor Gregor Robertson delivered a good-news message: Crime overall is down and aggressive anti-gang measures are making the city's streets more peaceable.

But Roberston acknowledged organized crime doesn't stop at Vancouver's border and more effort will be put into coordinating regional policing.

Vancouver, with a population of around 600,000,

recorded 18 homicides last year, one less than in 2008, while attempted murders, robberies and assaults also dropped.

But that's less than a third of the roughly five dozen killings last year in Metropolitan Vancouver—population more than two million. The figure rises to about 70 if eastern Fraser Valley communities are included.

By contrast Metropolitan Toronto, with a population of around 5.5 million, reported 62 homicides last year. Calgary, with about 1.2 million people, had 19 homicides in the first nine months of last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Groups call for Great Lakes cleanup

POLLUTION Environmentalists are calling on the Ontario government to update its regulations in order to stop the pollution of the Great Lakes.

Ecojustice, Great Lakes United and Environmental Defence are asking the Environment Ministry to review and amend nine regulations that they claim have become stagnant and ineffective. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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While he's got plenty of love for Canada, turns out UFC champ Brock Lesnar is no fan of our health care. Scan this code for the story.

Polar bears safe for now, report says

Polar bears are bearing up, it was announced yes**terday.**An international conser-

vation watchdog ruled that polar bears aren't endangered enough to need a global ban on trade that would place their hides in the same category as elephant ivory.

The ruling will make it tough for U.S. attempts to end Canada's commercial

"Trade is not a significant threat."

Traffic International

polar bear hunt.

It will also be welcomed by Inuit hunters who de-pend on the industry for millions of dollars a

"Trade is not a significant threat to the species,'

says Traffic International in its report yesterday.

The average annual export of 300 bear skins a year from Canada isn't big enough to threaten overall numbers, said Traffic, an international wildlife trade monitoring network.

"There is general agreement that the polar bear population is declining, but the rate of decline is slow. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgary Torch takes a ride on Olympic chairlift



Torchbearer Stewart McDonough carries the Vancouver 2010 Olympic flame up a chairlift at Cana da Olympic Park, site of events at the 1988 Calgary Olympics, in Calgary, yesterday. Follow the Olympic torch's journey with an interactive map at metronews.ca/sports.

Forest ministry cuts jobs

LAYOFFS The B.C. government is laying off 233 people in the forests and citizens' service ministries, citing budget challenges.

It's the second round of provincial government job cuts since the Liberal govannounced ernment record budget deficit last fall.

Last September, 106 government jobs were cut.

Allan Seckel, Premier Gordon Campbell's deputy minister, said in an email to public employees yesterday

"As we all prepare to manage into another challenging fiscal year, further workforce adjustment may be required."

B.C.'s Allan Seckel

that further workforce adjustments may be required. "As we all prepare to

into challenging fiscal year, further workforce adjustment may be required," the email

"But we are continuing our commitment to keep the overall impact on staff to less than five per cent of our workforce over three years."

The layoffs come at a difficult time for the B.C. forests industry as the signs of economic recovery are showing little impact.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS The NDP says it will propose legislation to limit the power of the prime minister to suspend Parliament, NDP Leader Jack Layton says Parliament should be prorogued only when a majority of MPs in the House of Commons vote to allow it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seizure sparks Games doubts

WHISTLER Lenders have seized the assets of Intrawest ULC — including the Whistler ski resort that will be home to the Olympic downhill races next month.

It is sparking uncertainty about whether the Games will be held there.

A public notice has been posted in newspapers by the company's lenders which include Lehman Brothers — saying an auction will be held on Feb. 19, in the midst of the Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment

Marriage – main cause of divorce



s marriage good for you? The research continues. In San Francisco, the U.S. federal court hearing on California's Proposition 8, which prohibits same-sex marriage in the state, has heard expert testimony that significant health benefits accrue to married people relative to singletons, and the ban is putting gay people at greater risk of depression, suicide and substance abuse.

An economist also outlined the fiscal benefits for the cash-strapped state of letting gay couples marry, including increased consumer spending, school funding and tax revenue.

Meanwhile, a new analy-

sis of U.S. census data by the Pew Research Center claims marriage is an excellent economic deal for men, whose income outstrips those who don't marry.

This is a change from 40 years ago, when a stigma, and vastly inferior salaries, greeted working wives. So married men typically took a financial hit relative to bachelors. Now, women have more education and make more money, often more money than the mis-

ter. What's in it for women now? Good question.

Some married people, I find, sell the joys of conjugality a little too hard, encouraging any couples who have been dating longer than a year to follow them to Hitchville post haste.

And then there are those who have taken an interest in the institution in general, like the Institute of Marriage and the Family Canada, which decried a recent "Divorce Fair" in Halifax, an

event that put prospective splitters in touch with lawyers, life coaches and other professionals.

Institute spokesperson Andrea Mrozek lamented the haste with which couples now contemplate divorce instead of sticking it out, and accused the divorce fair of "capitalizing on moments of difficulty or despair in people's lives."

But where are the institute's warnings for those who marry in haste in the first place? What if this "difficulty or despair" is a product of being married to the wrong person?

Personally, I don't knock marriage, but neither am I likely to try it.

While it seems to work swimmingly for some people, contribute to healthier, happier lives and all that, it remains the leading cause of divorce

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

Views

Sizing up fashion's plus-size model obsession



Fashion is a contentious cultural beast to wrestle with — its idealizing of the female shape is the source disordered eating and insecurity, but it's an economic powerhouse that is dominated by women as well. It's difficult for me to reconcile fashion's simultaneously destructive and creative careactive.

So it piqued my interest when I saw photos from V Magazine's "Size Issue," which hit stands last week. It's one of contradictions; one series, titled "One Size Fits All," invites comparison between two models — "straight-size" model Jacquelyn Jablonski and former-model-turned-plus-size model Crystal Renn are photographed in the same clothes and poses. An editorial titled "Curves Ahead" stars four plus-size models, while "V Love U Just The Way U R" features bigger and older gals, gender-ambiguous models, men and minorities.

The whole issue sounds a lot like an after-school special: We love you — you average woman that measures size 12 — even with your lumps, bumps, creases and cellulite. Perhaps, how-

ever, what the rest of us need is not a condescending pat on the head in a single, solitary magazine issue, but some acknowledgement that the fashion world is out of step with reality, and perhaps an act of contrition by changing that.

Rightly or wrongly, maga-

Rightly or wrongly, magazines and designers influence women's psyches and sartorial choices — and as the saying goes, with power comes responsibility. Size 0 models shouldn't be mandated to pack on the pounds, but they should reflect the breadth of our hips, butts and breasts.

The fashion industry does itself a disservice by not reflecting a range of body types — in fact, a 2006 British study found that av-

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erage-sized models were just as effective at selling products as their skinny counterparts.

Are these inclusive gestures as token as the models they choose?

And why bother integrating them into the fashion world if all they're going to do is highlight how different they are?

As long as "plus-size" models are ghettoized in a special "Size Issue" and made an exception to the rule, the fashion industry and the women who follow it will never get over their complex of seeing fat as an aberration.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryersor University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.



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Irish bishops summoned to Vatican

Ireland's Roman Catholic bishops are being summoned next month to a Vatican summit with Pope Benedict XVI to shape the pontiff's response to child-abuse scandals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



People try to stay in line to get disaster relief supplies at U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division's base in Port-au-Prince vesterday.

Aftershock rocks Haiti

Haiti Crisis

A powerful aftershock sent Haitians screaming into the streets yesterday, collapsing buildings, cracking roads and adding to the trauma of a nation stunned by an apocalyptic quake eight days ago.

The magnitude-5.9 jolt matched the strongest of the aftershocks that have followed the huge quake of Jan. 12 that devastated Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince.

The new temblor collapsed seven buildings in Petit-Goave, the seaside town closest to the epicentre, according to Mike Morton of the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordina-

Tax deductions

• The U.S. House of Representatives has passed a bill allowing for faster tax breaks for U.S. donors to Haiti earthquake relief efforts. Under current law, donors would have to wait until they file their 2010 returns next year to take the deductions.

tion agency, but there were no reports of people crushed or trapped, perhaps because the earlier quake frightened most people into sleeping outside.

Wails of terror erupted in Port-au-Prince, where the aftershock briefly interrupted rescue efforts amid the broken concrete of collapsed buildings, and prompted doctors and patients to flee the University Hospital.

Hundreds of thousands of Haitians remain homeless, hungry and in mourning — most still waiting for the benefits of a nearly \$1 billion US global aid campaign that has brought hundreds of doctors and thousands of troops to the impoverished Caribbean nation.

The U.S. Navy's floating hospital, USNS Comfort, dropped anchor in view of the capital yesterday with about 550 medical staff, joining teams from about 30 other countries trying to treat the injured. About 250,000 people were hurt in the quake and aid groups say many people have died for lack of medical care or adequate equipment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CHINA A leading human rights group said yesterday that China openly harasses, targets and arbitrarily detains critics, disbars lawyers to silence complaints and detains petitioners in secret jails. Along with criticism of China, Human Rights Watch also said Western governments have gone soft on efforts to hold Beijing accountable for its record.

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Tension over blacklists and long memories are roiling Iraqi politics, ar the U.S. is dispatching Joe Biden to he Scan this code for the story.

Democrats licking wounds

MASSACHUSETTS Chastened by the Democratic Senate loss in the state of Massachusetts, U.S. President Barack Obama and congressional allies signalled yesterday they will try to scale back his sweeping health care overhaul in an effort to at least keep parts of it alive.

A simpler, less ambitious bill emerged as an alternative only hours after the loss of the party's crucial 60th Senate seat forced the Democrats to slow their allout drive to pass Obama's top domestic priority and reconsider all options.

The 60-vote Senate Democratic majority is needed to overcome Republican procedural obstacles aimed at defeating the legislation.

No decisions have been made, lawmakers said, but they laid out a new approach that could still include these provisions: limiting the ability of insurance companies to deny coverage to people with medical problems, allowing young adults to stay on their parents' policies, helping small businesses and low-income people pay insurance premiums and changing government changing government health care for the elderly to encourage payment for quality care instead of sheer volume of services.

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8 world

Death toll rises to 10 as floods ravage Sinai Desert

Three more Egyptians died in flooding in the southern Sinai Desert yesterday, bringing the toll for three days of unseasonably heavy rains to 10, a health official said. Meanwhile, Bedouins angry the government was downplaying their losses clashed with security forces in South Sinai. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How many died?

B.C. group questions toll in Congo conflict

Death comes easy in the Congo, but just how accurate are the fatal figures?

The Congo conflict has been dubbed the world's deadliest since the Second World War, causing 5.4 million deaths.

But a research group is challenging those figures.

The figure of 5.4 million deaths since 1998 was publicized by the International Rescue Committee, a private relief agency.

The UN Security Council

The UN Security Council cited IRC's figures when it decided to raise a peace-keeping force for Congo, which has grown to more than 20,000 troops.

But a new review re-

"In Congo, people were already dying in higher numbers."

Joshua Goldstein

leased yesterday says the statistics themselves are questionable.

The Human Security Report project at Simon Fraser University in B.C. found two major problems with the IRC's 2000 study:

• The Human Security Report rejected the interview-based sampling that was done in dangerous eastern Congo regions, arguing that the areas were not representative.

• It also questioned the figure the IRC used for the "normal" mortality rate in Congo. The IRC used the average mortality rate for sub-Saharan Africa, but some experts argue Congo's rate was higher even before the conflict.

"In Congo, people were already dying in higher numbers than in the rest of Africa, even before the war. And they continued to die in higher numbers after the war," said professor emeritus Joshua Goldstein of American University.

He estimates one million to two million Congolese died as a result of the conflict. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kandahar City Meeting the locals



Cpl. Stephanie Lanning from Clinton, Ark., of the 293rd Military Police Company out of Fort Stewart, Ga., meets Afghan girls during an information gathering operation in Kandahar City, southern Afghanistan, yesterday.



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Terror syndicate a threat: Gates

WAR A syndicate of terror groups affiliated with al-Qaida might try to start a new war between India and Pakistan as part of an organized effort to sow upheaval across South Asia, U.S. Defence Secretary Robert Gates warned yesterday.

"I believe this operation, under the umbrella of al-Qaida working with all of these different groups, is intended to destabilize not just Afghanistan, or not just Pakistan, but potentially the whole region," Gates said.

Gates described the relations between Taliban groups and Lashkar-e-Taiba extremists accused of orchestrating the 2008 terror attack on the Indian city of Mumbai.

city of Mumbai.

And he suggested the Pakistan-based militants might try a new terror assault on India to provoke a reprisal.

U.S. officials say one of

"I believe this operation ... is intended to destabilize ... the whole region." Robert Gates

their greatest fears is that Islamic militants who oppose the popularly elected governments in both India and Pakistan will find a way to get the nuclear-armed rivals fighting one another instead of the militantic features.

Gates praised his Indian hosts for restraint following the three-day terror siege of Mumbai, which India immediately blamed on militants inside Pakistan.

There were no reprisals, and Pakistan has charged seven men. Yet it might not be the same next time, Gates said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India Making waves



A Hindu holy man takes a dip at Sangam, the confluence of the Ganges and Yamuna rivers, on the day of Basant Pachami during the month-long Magh Mela in Allahabad, India, yesterday. Hundreds of thousands of devout Hindus bathe over 30 days to rid themselves of their sins and attain prosperity.

Killing site hid explosives cache

VIRGINIA Bomb technicians discovered a "multitude" of explosives yesterday at the home of a man suspected in the shooting deaths of eight people.

Crews detonated the devices as more details about the gunman came to light.

Christopher Bryan Speight, a 39-year-old security guard, surrendered to police at daybreak after leading authorities on an 18-hour manhunt following the shootings at a house in rural central Virginia.

In the house, deputies found a mortally wounded man and seven bodies.

Speight had no weapons when he surrendered shortly after 7 a.m. wearing a bulletproof vest over a black fleece jacket, camouflage pants and mudcaked boots. Neither the sheriff nor police would disclose what Speight said.

Speight, who was jailed while awaiting charges, coowned and lived in the home where some of the bodies were found.

Neighbour Monte W. Mays said Speight's mother deeded the house to Speight and his sister in 2006, shortly before she died of brain cancer.

Mays said Speight was a good neighbour. They waved as they passed each other on the road and sent their dogs out to play with one another.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

ACTIVISM Environmental group Sierra Club has named its first new leader in 18 years — an activist who once took over the intercom of a Home

Depot to tell customers not to buy lumber from ancient forests. Michael Brune, 38, replaces Carl Pope in March.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Warren Buffett says he still doesn't approve of Kraft's \$19.5-billion acquisition of Cadbury, but he doesn't plan to sell his stake in the company. Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway is Kraft's largest stockholder and he has been vocal in his belief that Kraft overpaid for the European chocolate and gum maker. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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9

entrepreneurs, real estate agents, lonely singles: The market for Catharine Fennell's business, in her view. is unlimited.

Fennell's company, The Original VideoBIO Inc., is in the business of making low-cost high quality video for people who want to communicate their brand in a professional manner.

Sure, anyone can upload a video to YouTube, but with VideoBIO, Fennell says, clients get a professionally shot and scripted three-minute video that can be hosted on her website, www.videobio.com, or embedded in the clients'

online resume, dating profile, website and emails.
"I would say any video

production company can produce any kind of video," Fennell said in an interview. "But nobody's doing them the way we

are.
"We're selling a concept that allows people to plug their personal message into a video medium that wasn't accessible or affordable before," she said. The basic price, she adds, is

Now, Fennell's company has added authors to its list of clients.

The Toronto-based company has signed a deal with book publisher Harper Collins Canada to produce video bios to go with their author releases this

For Fennell, who was already in the business of helping people brand themselves, through her company, Market Yourself Smarter, video was the next logical tool in the

Technological advances had made it easier and cheaper to upload and share video files. And the concept of Brand You, first articulated by U.S. management consultant Tom Peters, was gaining momen-



Catharine Fennell is President and CEO of videoBIO, which helps people put video bios online for

m.metr@news.ca

From protests to proposals, the Olympic torch relay has been surprising, and sponsors have reaped publicity. Scan this code for the story.

N.Y. Times to charge for website access

ONLINE The New York Times says it will charge readers for full access to its website starting in 2011, a risky move aimed at drawing more revenue online without driving away advertisers that want the biggest possible audience.

The potential pitfalls have made most other major newspapers hesitant to take a similar step. But after months of deliberation, the Times said yesterday it will use a metered system, allowing free access to a certain number of articles and then charging users for additional content.

The Times did not disclose how many articles will be available for free and what it will charge to read more. Subscribers to the printed version of the Times would still have free access to the Web site.

It would not be the first time the newspaper has tried to charge for its online articles.

It charged for its website in 1996, but attracted only about 4,000 subscribers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dollar's rise slowed by inflation

ECONOMY Canadian inflation remained tame in December, taking the steam out of the loonie's recent surge and giving the Bank of Canada even less reason to move off historically low interest rates.

Statistics Canada said annual inflation rate ticked up to 1.3 per cent in December — three-tenths of a point less than expectations — but, if anything, even that low figure exaggerates the upward pressure on prices.

The more important number, say economists, is that consumer prices actually slid 0.3 per cent in December from November and that core inflation, which excludes the volatile energy component, remained a tame 1.5 per cent — below the central bank's target of two per cent.

"There are two big factors at play — the underlying weakness of the economy means businesses can't raise prices and the other big factor is the renewed

strength of the Canadian " dollar, which import prices," said

Douglas chief econo-mist with Douglas Porter

BMO Capital Markets.

The surprisingly-low inflation rate helped drive down the value of the Canadian dollar to 95.43 cents US, down about 1.6 cents from Tuesday's close of 97.02. That was the biggest one-day slid for the loonie since October.

Money markets downgraded the dollar in part because the lack of upward inflationary pressures makes it even less likely the Bank of Canada will raise interest rates any time soon.

On Tuesday, the central bank kept its trendsetting overnight

rate at the

of 0.25 and

keep it there

after

pledged

until

... The underlying is quashing weakness of the economy means businesses can't Porter, deputy raise prices ..."

but June. some economists speculate it may remain at the so-called lower bound until the fourth quarter of

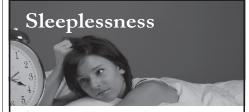
The central bank had earlier warned about low interest rates triggering a housing bubble, which could drive up inflation, but did not mention home prices in Tuesday's state-THE CANADIAN PRESS ment.

Business in brief

KINDLE Amazon.com Inc. said yesterday it will begin offering authors and publishers a bigger cut of book sales on its Kindle e-reader — but with strings attached aimed at keeping prices that consumers pay down. The Seattle company said starting in June, it will offer royalties on book sales of

70 per cent after delivery costs. With those costs equalling less than six cents per book, Amazon said authors will be able to earn US\$6.25 per copy on a book that sells for \$8.99. To qualify for the new rate. authors and publishers must meet several criteria.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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- · Have been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia, or regularly experience the symptoms associated with the condition, including muscle pain, stiffness, headache and fatique
- Have experienced difficulty sleeping for at least three days out of the week

Qualified participants will receive study medication and all study-related tests at no cost and may be compensated for time and travel.



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Beer shortage GARDA after shutdown

BELGIUM The world's largest brewer, Anheuser-Busch In-Bev SA, shut down production in its home country yesterday, in an escalation of a standoff over job cuts with its Belgian workers, which is causing beer shortages in shops.

Workers began blockading three AB InBev breweries two weeks ago to protest against cutting up to 263 jobs in Belgium as part of plan to reduce the company's European workforce by 10 per cent.

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Invest online with ease at RBC



RBC's Direct Investing program helps investors build confidence in their portfolios to meet financial goals.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW

Online investing is easier than ever thanks to the changing face of online investors and the powerful tools put in their hands.

Jason Storsley, president and CEO of RBC Direct Investing, says the changes the online investing indus"We really see RBC Direct Investing as a partnership — we don't leave investors on their own. We recognize that our role is to help investors build confidence in their portfolios to meet their financial goals."

Jason Storslev

try has gone through in a few short years have been

staggering as the profile of the online investor has undergone a metamorphosis that defies stereotype

"The profile of your average online investor has really changed over the last five years. It used to be mostly male investors just looking for the best stock prices, now there is a much wider range of peo-ple looking to secure their financial futures online," Storsley said.

The proof is in the numbers which show a sharp rise in the number of new investors flocking online to sites like rbcdirectinvesting.com.

"Our net new account growth is up more than 30 per cent. I think the key reason is that it's never been easier to get started as an online investor. There's a wide range of knowledge and wide range of experience at your fingertips. It's a lot easier for investors now to come in and build a strong portfolio," Storsley said.

The powerful tools of-fered by RBC Direct Investing have played a big part in the influx of new online investors, Storsley says, and RBC sees itself as an equal partner involved in every part of the investing

relationship.

"We really see RBC Direct Investing as a partnership - we don't leave investors on their own. We recognize that our role is to help investors build confidence in their portfolios to meet their financial goals," Storsley said.

research Independent and performance index links on the RBC site arm with crucial investors

investment choices while prepared investor profiles let you jump into an investment strategy fitted to your needs and goals which have already been pre-screened by RBC ex-

Features like RBC Practice Accounts, which let you test the waters using fake money in a real context, take a lot of the guesswork out of the online investing process and get acclimatized to the act of in-

RBC's sophisticated asset calculator mix through the confusion of creating a healthy, diversified portfolio by offering suggestions by trained experts on which investments to make, in what amounts, depending on your particular investor profile.

It's all about putting the power of strong investing directly into the hands of online investors themselves by making direct investing easier to understand and take control of.

"We've done a lot around helping our clients improve their financial litand investment knowledge. Investors are looking for more than just low cost — they're looking for tools and education so they can be confident that the decisions they're making are the right ones," Storsley said.

According to Storsley, RBC's youngest registered online investor is 11 years old, proof that age or prior investment experience are no barriers to getting started with online investing.

"Because of the advancements in technology, we're able to put very powerful tools in the hands of investors. For those looking to take control, it really has never been easier to become an online vestor," Storsley said.

For more information,

rbcdirectinvesting.com.

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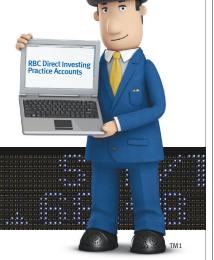


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Online ease

•Unlike the early days of online investing, modern online investors represent a wide cross-section of society with an almost equal split between men and women and a variety of young, old, new and experienced investors making use of online investment tools.

Many more Canadians are choosing to manage some or even all of their investments online, with self-directed investors comprising roughly 15-20 per cent of all Canadian investors and the number of

new online investors is growing rapidly.

 While trading stocks is still a common trend among online investors, pursuit of long-term investments and financial goals is more popular than ever among self-directed in-

• With powerful investing education and analysis tools available online at rbcdirectinvesting.com, more investors than ever are finding the process of investing online easier and just as effective as offline.



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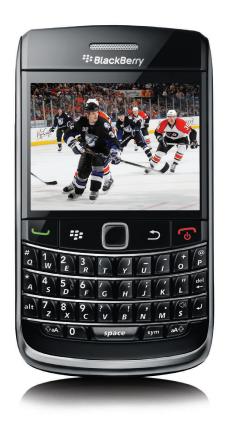
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Pistons owner exploring sale of club

Detroit Pistons owner Karen Davidson says the option of selling the NBA franchise is being explored. Forbes valued the Pistons at \$479 million US last month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Kobe's jersey still top seller

Kobe Bryant, left, has retained his spot atop the list of the NBA's bestselling jerseys e young stars Dwight Howard and Derrick Rose moved into the top five. Ho NBA Store and nbastore.com since the start of the season.

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

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Handing franchise Tace Eric Stade the 'C' is only the beginning of changes for struggling Hurrican Scan this code for the story.

SCOREBOARD

Oilers blow lead, fall in OT

Canucks 3 Oilers 2 (OT)







Daniel Sedin scored the overtime winner and added two assists as the Vancouver Canucks handed the Edmonton Oilers their ninth consecutive loss, 3-2 last night.

Down 2-1 the Canucks were able to tie it up on a 4-on-3 advantage with just 4:06 remaining as Sami Salo leaned into a blast from the point that beat Edmonton starter Devan Dubnyk and sent the game to extra time. The Canucks only needed 1:39 to capture the win as Daniel Sedin scored on an easy tap in.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Edmonton's Robert Nilsson crashes into the Vancouver's Christian Ehrhoff, left, and goalie Roberto Luongo during last night's action.



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14 sports



Canada's Ashleigh McIvor won a silver medal at the skicross World Cup yesterday. She finished behind Marte Hoeie Gjefsen of Norway in the final at Blue Mountain in Collingwood, Ont. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ancouver Games

Plenty of snow in Whistler | McKeever on verge of histo



John Heilig, ski jump manager, stands at the base of the ski jump venue yesterday at the Whistler Olympic Park. Heilig said the venue is ready for athletes, three weeks before the Games begin



Coalition teams are in place, working around the clock, helping to restore the lives of countless suffering children and families as the situation in Haiti reaches epic proportions. As many as 3 million Haitians require immediate and long term help.

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Whistler's Olympic Park is all ready to welcome athletes, three weeks before competition starts.

Unlike Cypress Mountain, which has been cursed with a lack of snow, the biathlon circuit has twice the amount it needs and planners are expecting more snowfall before the Games start, said John Alder, general manager of Whistler Olympic Park.

"We are ready at all the competition areas," Alder said vesterday.

"They are groomed daily.

The Park will host 28 medal events in biathlon, cross-country skiing and ski jumping, the first time in Olympic history all three events will be held at one venue.

John Heilig, ski jump

coolants running under the snow, keeping it cold in the warm, damp weather.

"The fog isn't an issue," he said.

"Our biggest challenge would be really heavy snowfall."

Whistler's Athletes' Village is also in its "finishing touches" phase, with housekeeping staff working on putting sheets on beds and kitchen crews prepping the massive dining hall, which will serve 11,000 meals a day.

"This is a very exciting time for us," said Tim Morrison, general manag-er of Whistler Village.

"(In a matter of weeks), this will be the home of the world's best athletes."

The Whistler Village will also have a bank, retail outlets, a multi-faith centre, high-end gym and a small - but fully functional — hospital.

verge of history

HINTS DROPPED Brian McKeever wasn't ready to celebrate yet, but Canada's cross-country ski federation strongly hinted yesterday that the Canmore native will make history as the first winter-sport athlete to compete in both an Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Cross Country Canada issued a release stating the complete Olympic team will be announced tomorrow in

Canmore. The organization all but announced McKeever's appointment to the team by saying "the contin-

gent of ath-



letes will include the world's first winter-sport athlete who will compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in the same year."

McKeever, a visually impaired skier and the winner of four Paralympic gold medals, has been striving to also compete in the Olympics. He won a 50-kilometre Nor-Am trials race at the Canmore Nordic Centre last month

"Until it's been officially announced to me and the public, I'm not willing to say anything until I have full confirmation," McKeever said yes-

"Nothing has been confirmed because there's a still a number of Olympic spots we don't know that

we're going to get or not.' The Winter Olympics open Feb. 12 in Vancouver and Whistler, B.C., followed by the Paralympics March 12-21 in the same communities.

Five athletes have competed in both Paralympics and Olympics and all of them have been summer-sport athletes: South African swimmer Natalie du Toit (amputee), American run-ner Marla Runyan (visually impaired), Polish table tennis player Natalia Partyka (born without right hand and forearm), Italian archer Paola Fantato (polio) and New Zealand's Neroli Susan Fairhall (paraplegic), who was also an archer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mingle time

eling with second helpings easy. Pottery Barn, \$9, potterybarn.ca. JENNIFER BILL/FOR METRO CANADA

HSBC 2.25% 2.25% 2.25% 3.50% 2.05% 2.25% 2.25% 2.25% 1.95% EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Based on a 50-year-old design and handmade in Czech Republic, the Encased Amber Flute is a deeply • • golden flower held in place between a slim stem and a ridged, mouth-blown bowl, while this ${\bf Backyard\ Champagne\ Flute\ is\ handmade\ in\ Poland.\ Anthropologie,\ both\ \$19.35,\ anthropologie.com.}$

Homes in Style

JENNIFER BILL for Metro Canada



lips in anticipation. Mix in chic decor, a bar-tender in the know, and a lively mix of people, and you've got yourself a cocktail party, where the little black dress is always welcome and wine, beer and the mixed cocktail — traditional or trendy - are the featured players of the evening.

Celebrity designer and trend expert Marc Atiyolil said a cocktail party's decor should be carefully chosen to create the desired mood.

"I personally love a contemporary setting 'back to nature' colour scheme using white and lime green paired with shades of brown is quite popular," said Atiyolil, edi-tor-in-chief of Canadian Home Trends magazine.

"Too little colour makes it look plain and boring and too much colour will look like you are hosting a party for your 5 year old. Opt for two to three colours that work well together and your place will exude a styl-ish yet sophisticated look."

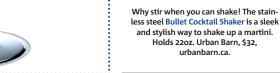
Accentuate your elegant side and play up the ambiance with dainty floral arrangements, floating candles in vases or tumblers, and mirrored serving trays. Or turn it down a notch and create a chill lounge to max-imize mingling. Dim the lights, dot the periphery with tea lights, and choose mood music





Drink Server is a stainless teel six-head dispenser with chrome finishing and a suction base for sturdy balance that rotates easily. With a spill and leak proof pushup pouring mechanism. it can be used for 750ml or 1l bottles. Canadian Tire, \$49.99,









Make professional cocktails right at home with this stainless steel bar set, which includes strainer, stirrer, jigger, can opener, ice tong and ice bucket. Canadian Tire, \$29.99, canadiantire.ca.



Fill this party-sized **Glass Drink** Dispenser with sangria, punch or any iced thirstquencher. Pottery Barn, \$115, potterybarn .ca.

Aria Lace Cutout Coasters cushion cups or glasses in style. Available in white, black and red, these coasters are cut from stain-stemming ornamental felt. Urban Barn, \$5 for set of four. urbanbarn.ca.





16

Claiborne closing Canada division

Liz Claiborne Canada Inc. has an agreement with Laura Canada to assign the majority of its retail store leases across the country. And, Claiborne retail stores in Canada will close gradually from February until the end of October 2010. METRO NEWS SERVICES





Go glam for patriotism

Show your Olympic support with style by sporting Foxy Original's new "Go Canada" necklace and earrings collection. Fifty per cent of the net proceeds from online sales of the es go to the Canadian Association for Advancement of Women and Sport. Available starting next month, each retail for \$25 at foxvoriginals.com. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Trends for spring '10

JANINE FALCON for Metro Canada

"Fashion's eclectic and edgy fall was in part a reaction to the economical times," says stylist and lifestyle expert Janette Ewen, who is a regular on CitvLine.

This spring is taking on a less aggressive, more feminine personality, she says, which is still influenced by the recession, but more about escape. Here are six trends that hit the high-

Yep, the tough girl is still around, with her bold shoulders, distressed jeans and military jackets, which, says Ewen, have "softer lines, a Boer-era styling in beatenup green and khaki." Military jackets were strong at Balmain, with long tails and elaborate epaulettes and Burberry Prorsum, which featured sharp, trenches in army beige. Safari-style toppers also stood out at Aquascutum.

2. Pale Neutrals

Shades of nude, blush pink, pastels, misty grey and

white married with sheer, airy and drapey textures lend vulnerability rather than provocation at Antonio Berardi, Calvin Klein and Alberta Ferretti. "It's a visible-lingerie look, with a '20s and '30s soft silhouette, shaped without boning," explains Ewen.

3. Brights

Statement shades of yellow, red, purple and green accents pop against a white palette at Bottega Veneta, and broadcast a playful vibe with splashy prints at Marc by Marc Jacobs and Blumarine, and Lady Gaga-esque AQUASCUTUM



graphics at Alexander Mc-Queen. Orange is a hot hue; it hit the catwalk for Lanvin, Donna Karan and others.

4. Short Hemlines

Mini skirts and dresses give legs more airtime as warmer weather approaches. Look to Chanel's shortskirt suits, Proenza Schouler's swingy frocks just about every designer hit at least above the knee this season. As well, shorts from walking-length to wee strutted down the catwalk at Phillip Lim, Costume National and more.

5. Ruffles

Ruffles and ruching made the detail-difference in the aforementioned military and safari jackets and added

glam and at times girly flourish at Stella McCartney, Chanel, Lanvin and Marc Jacobs. "There's a Lolita look this spring whimsical, sweet and innocent rather than seductive," Ewan

cabbage flowers they're everywhere,' Ewen Flowers notes. bloomed at Re-Taylor, becca Derek Lam and Luella. and mixed with tribal at Diane von Furstenberg.





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Money-saving tip

The venue and food can be the largest drain on your budget. An option is to go to a vacation destination for a private ceremony with close family and friends. When you return, have a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres party to celebrate. **NEWS CANADA**

Wedding Planner

Gowns get dramatic

for Metro Canada

This year promises to be a fun one for the wedding dress. It's playing with colourful accents, lacy layers, changing lengths — and it's doing it on a budget.

"Black accents are not Goth anymore," says Lori Pannia, editor in chief at the TheRingBearer.ca. "This theme was all over the runway; whether it be a sash in the hair, a belt around the waist or even simple details on the dress, all designers used some sort of drama with black accents."

Red is also getting in on the fun. "Look for bright red dresses embellished with large satin sashes and bows, or red dresses with black piping and details," says Lisa Lewis, co-founder of Live It Up Events.

Texture is a big one this year. "Look for floral prints and intricate lace details, which make the dresses appear soft and touchable," says Pannia.

Layers are coming in the form of a bolero to cover the shoulders, or just more fabric to fill out the dress: "Chiffon, tulle, organza, or even feathers — layers of fabric are the newest major detail designers are

playing with," says Lewis. And with layering comes functionality.

"There was a movement towards wanting to wear short for the wedding but feeling torn about miss-

ing the experience and drama of the wedding gown," explains Adele Wechsler. Her latest collection uses layers to transform a dress.

"They are pieces where you wear a short dress over a long skirt that together look seamless. (A bride) could come to the reception and be kind of sassy and sexy in a short dress.

"Or just simply be able to use it again. It fits in with the philosophy of the eco bride who wants to be able to reuse and re-wear and not simply have

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this dress that she could only wear once."

Aside from flaunting legs, gowns are also revealing more skin on backs.

"Backs were open and low cut," says Pannia.

"The looks are sexy but designed to be classy. Keep an eye out for keyhole cutouts and jewels adorning the back." Finally, budgets are being considered. While her collection offers saving in the

form of two dresses in one, Wechsler has

come

with a more affordable line. "With the economy being what it is, another important considera-

C H S AR ulture Color

tion for me with this collection was that I wanted to be able to offer a couture gown for under \$2,000."

Texture is big this year, as seen in this gown by Reem Acra.

THE ASSOCIATED

Below, this silk organza Laurel gown in ivory by Adele Wechsler can be worn as a short cocktail

dress.



Meet the experts

It's been referred to as the most important day of your life; your wedding day. But before taking the plunge, it might be a good idea to make the second most important day of your life a day spent at **Bridal Fantasy**, Western Canada's largest one-day bridal show.

• The Northlands doors open at 9:30 a.m. this Sunday and thousands of soon-to-be newlyweds will be walking the aisles of the two-hall bridal bonanza.

Bridal Fantasy president, Gay Derk, said the best way to keep wedding costs down is to spend the day at Northlands. "We don't like to see people go badly in debt for their wedding. Divorce is 44 per cent in Canada, and of that, a big portion is because of debt," Derk said. "The Bridal Fantasy show is great because a lot of vendors offer discounts, so for somebody who's actually trying to save some money, there's a lot of different things you can get and overall save money on your wedding."

With over \$150,000 in prizes and gifts, including a brand new Volvo C30 from Edmonton Volvo and the grand prize of an incredible fantasy wedding package and honeymoon, it won't really matter if it rains on your wedding day. "We always say, Bridal Fantasy is where fantasy becomes reality." Derk said.

Tickets for Bridal Fantasy are \$20 per person, which includes admission to the Gown Gallery, the perfect place to find the wedding gown of your dreams. Brides who attend the show will receive a free Bridal Fantasy Wedding Planner and Survival Guide and a free copy of the newest issue of the Bridal Fantasy magazine.

For more information, visit: bridalfantasy.com





Black — as seen here in the Arabella gown, left, and the Rhapsody gown by Jenny Packham — was all over the runway at the Spring and Summer 2010 bridal fashion shows.





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Cowell inks \$500M deal with Sonv

Simon Cowell has signed a \$500 million US deal with Sony. The two-year contract with the entertainment giant will see him rake in the staggering sum — expected to tip his fortunes close to the \$1 billion mark. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainmen

Grammy tribute

June 25 death. PEOPLE.CO

Crazy Heart, but sensible sound

Crazy **Heart**

Album: Crazy Heart OST Label: New West/Universal Rating: \$\pi\p\2

IT'S A GIVEN that a movie about washed up country singer



would have an excellent soundtrack. Especially if the music is supervised by T-Bone Burnett. Crazy soundtrack Heart's loaded with fantastic songs by legendary artists — Hello Trouble by Buck Owens, Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way by Waylon Jennings, If I Needed You by Townes Van Zandt — but it's the original music sung by Jeff Bridges, Colin Far-rell and Robert Duvall that really make this an interesting disc. Bridges' gruff voice on the bluesy country tune Hold on Now is a must hear.

Spoon

Album: Transference Label: Merge

WHEN BAND comes perilously close to mainstream success, as



Spoon did with its last disc, the group can go one of two ways: Play to the masses or retreat. Britt Daniel's latest falls somewhere in between. The band's new stripped down sound is immediately apparent on the first listen.



Jeff Bridges stars as a washed up country singer in Crazy Heart.

It's sparse, the choruses and verses aren't as distinct, and the group stays mostly mellow throughout. But, on closer inspection, the hooks that propelled the band forward the last few years are still there. It's still clean, refreshing pop and proves that increasing fame hasn't changed the band.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Can

Ringo Starr

Album: Y Not Label: Universal Rating: 🕮 🏶

A BEATLE DEserves the best and Ringo gets it from an allstar cast of



collaborators that includes Ben Harper, Joe Walsh, Van Dyke Parks, Dave Stewart,

course, Paul McCartney. At 69, Ringo takes over production duties for the first time in his long career, as well as much of the song writing. Some of the compositions seem a tad hamhanded or contrived, but the album is carried by the Beatle drummer's unflappable charm and good nature. Standouts include Ringo's duets with Sir Paul (Walk With You) and Joss Stone (Who's Your Daddy). This is Ringo's best effort since the '70s.

Gary Wright, Richard Marx,

Don Was, Joss Stone and, of

Hawksley Workman

Album: Milk & Meat Label: Six Shooter/Warner Rating: ###

WORKMAN has nearly done it all. taken

on folk music, brash mainstream pop, laid-back rock and now he tackles grungy sounds and electro-pop dance on his latest releases. Meat & Milk isn't really a double disc the former is getting physical distribution, while the later is a digital release but it's still billed as a dou-

ble disc. Meat is the mellower, lo-fi of the two while Milk is an upbeat club-friendly record.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Ca

Delphic

Album: Acolyte Label: Polydor Rating: 🕮 🕮 🤻

SOUND **OF** 2010 according to U.K. the press sounds



like 2008. Delphic may be the hottest band in England but its exploitation of synths 'n' guitars sounds an awful lot like Klaxons, Bloc Party and Friendly Fires. And all at once, handily, which is why the group will likely get away with it. That said, Acolyte is some seamlessly constructed electropop. Delphic may come across as second wave new ravers but there's enough here to see why Britain's infatuated with the band.

Cam Lindsay/for Metro Ca

On the web

 Read our review of Editors' In This Light and On This Evening at metronews ca/music

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All-star lineup for Haiti telethon

PEOPLE The music world's top stars are signing on for Friday's Hope for Haiti telethon.

Bruce Springsteen, Jay-Z, Taylor Swift, Justin Timberlake, Keith Urban and Alicia Keys are just a few of the performers who will be featured, according to MTV Networks.

Haiti was devastated and thousands of its citizens killed when an earthquake hit the Caribbean nation last week. Hope For Haiti Now: A Global Benefit for Earthquake Relief will be an international event. Haitian native Wyclef Jean will anchor the show from New York, while George Clooney will do so from Los Angeles. CNN's Anderson Cooper will report from Haiti. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Avatars hit the workforce

For many companies, sci-fi characters are superior to humans

ELIZABETH BRAW for Metro World News

In real life Byron Reeves is a bald academic. But Reeves also conducts research using with as his avatar, a strapping man with hair.

"Lots of companies already use avatars," explains Reeves, a psychology professor at Stanford

3-D Dilemma

 As many as one in 10 cinema-goers are blind to the groundbreaking 3-D effects of James Cameron blockbuster Avatar, A number of vision defects affect the ability to see the extra dimension of depth meaning millions are left wondering what all the fuss is about. According to experts, somewhere between five and 10 per cent of people are unable to see in 3-D. Even being slightly "cross-eyed" can affect the enjoyment of the 3-D experience.

METRO WORLD NEWS

University. "Using avatars, you can conduct meetings, meet clients and have brainstorming sessions without having to travel. In fact, you don't even have to leave the building. And you don't risk getting swine flu from shaking hands with an avatar."

Reeves, who specializes in human interaction with avatars, is the author of Total Engagement: Using Games and Virtual Worlds to Change the Way People Work and Businesses Compete.

Today companies like IBM, Cisco, SAP and Boeing use avatars — 3-D characters whose age, gender and appearance the user chooses — to interact with colleagues and customers around the world.

"Thousands of people at IBM meet every week through their virtual characters," notes Reeves. "Even recruitment is done with avatars." Soon the 3-D characters



Don't laugh: she may be sitting over in the next cubicle.

may inhabit less technology-driven workplaces, too.

"Avatars will take over repetitive and boring tasks that humans find unfulfilling,"

Avatar – the movie version – the is still playing in the avatars, but working through

them is much more fun." Reeves's experiments show that people are more stimulated — and their hearts beat faster — when directing avatars than when doing the tasks themselves. Office environments, too, can be spiced up in 3-D.

But Avatar, the movie, won't take over Planet Earth any time soon.

"The avatars in the movie are real-life characters, while the avatars we have now just live in a 3-D computer world," explains Reeves. "On the other hand, there are things I can do with my avatar that the people in the movie can't do!"

Broken Social Scene singer offers clue about new album

INDIE For Broken Social Scene fans continuing to wait for the Toronto collective's long-awaited fourth studio album, collaborator Amy Millan offered a new detail yesterday.

Millan said that she recorded a track with Leslie Feist and Emily Haines for the disc, marking the first time the three Canadians had worked together on the same song.

gether on the same song. "That was really fun," Millan told The Canadian Press in a telephone interview. "We all met up in Toronto."

Details have been few and far between on the new album, the band's first since 2005's self-titled record.

Members of the group

have been recording in Chicago with producer John McEntire of Tortoise and the Sea and Cake, but were coy about providing any information about the record when interviewed in December.

"We've been really enjoying the whole process," Brendan Canning said then.

Of McEntire, he added: "It's a long journey we're on together. Trying to make music always is."

However, she doesn't think the new record will be called The Black House, the Blue Sky as has been rumoured by fervent fans on the Internet.

She said discussions about the title were ongoing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Entertainment in brief

OSCARS Contenders for best foreign-language film at this year's Oscars have been narrowed down to nine, including Golden Globe winner The White Ribbon from Germany. But Canada's official entry, I Killed My Mother (J'ai tue ma mere) by Quebec director Xavier Dolan, failed to make the cut. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences says a committee of several hundred members selected the nine films that qualified.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spiderman caught in new director's Webb

BLOCKBUSTERS SONV Pictures and Marvel Studios announced Tuesday that the (500) Days of Summer director Marc Webb will helm the next Spider-Man film following the departure of Sam Raimi and Tobey Maguire, the director and star who worked on the previous three Spidey films. The fourth installment is set for a 2012 release and will focus on a vounger version of the superhero.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In **brief**

REALITY Canadian chef Michael Smith is headed to Iron Chef America to do battle in kitchen stadium. Food Network Canada says the host of Chef Abroad and Chef At Home will face off against New York celebrity chef Bobby Flay on Jan. 31, where the pair will concoct a meal using a secret ingredient. THE CANADIAN PRESS





critics'corner_

Ron Mann ("Grass," "Tales of the Rat Fink") applies his cheeky filmmaking style to the fungus among us with this documentary, which is packed full of fun facts about mushrooms—from the mundane to the magic kind—and the people who love them. Centered around an annual festival of fungi in Colorado, it introduces such colorful figures as Larry Evans, the "Indiana Jones of mushrooms." 7 PM on BRAVO



The Perez Family

They're creepy and they're kooky ... oops, that was another movie with "Family" in its title and Anjelica Huston in the cast. In this 1995 comedy-drama, she plays a Cuban woman who's been living in the U.S. for 20 years. Her husband (Alfred Molina) has just arrived in Miami to join her, but a fellow refugee (Marisa Tomei) who shares his surname convinces him they'll both have a better chance of getting in if they pose as a couple. Guess what habbens next. 7 PM on VISION

20 entertainment



GQ magazine is declaring that Johnny Depp is the Most Stylish Man in the World ... or at least one of them. Also on the list are Robert Pattinson, Tom Brady and Brad Pitt. You can vote for your pick at GQ.com. POPEATER.COM



Brittany's mother says daughter died of natural causes, not drugs

CELEBRITY DEATH A month after her sudden death, Brittany Murphy's mother and husband say they are convinced the actress died of natural causes, not drugs or an eating disor-

In an interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday, Sharon Murphy and Simon Monjack said that Murphy did not use drugs or alcohol and that they are awaiting a determination from coroner's offi-cials that will end speculation prescription medicine caused Murphy's death on Dec. 20 at age 32.

Murphy had mitral valve prolapse, a common condition where a heart valve does not properly close, but doctors said the actress "would live a long and healthy life," Monjack

"She had a fear of dying," Sharon Murphy said.
"She would not take too much caffeine. She wouldn't even have a glass of champagne on New Year's. She was just high on life, and people see that as something else I guess."

Murphy, the star of varied films such as Clueless. 8 Mile, Sin City and the television series King of the Hill, was buried in a private funeral on Christmas Eve. At the service, Monjack told mourners that the actress was

best friend and soul mate. sentiments he peated

the Tuesday interview.

Authorities continue to investigate her death but do not suspect foul play. An autopsy was inconclusive and coroner's officials are awaiting the results of toxicology and tissue tests before determining what the ac-

The pair worked frantically to save Murphy's life the morning she died, as revealed in heart-wrenching emergency call where Sharon Murphy implores, "Brittany, please come back!" as Monjack performs CPR.

Monjack and Sharon Murphy remain in the Hollywood Hills home where Brittany Murphy collapsed a month ago. DVDs of some of Brittany Murphy's films lay near the entertainment centre, and several framed photographic por-traits of the actress that Monjack shot adorn the walls and other areas of the

living room "I'm comforted by these photographs," Monjack said "I'm comforted by the transformation from girl to woman that I nessed." wit-

PRESS

A marriage in Creation

Paul Bettany and wife Jennifer Connelly play Mr. and Mrs. Darwin in new film

Real life husband and wife **Paul Bettany and Jennifer** Connelly play Charles and **Emma Darwin in Creation,** the historical biography about the struggles of a marriage and society under intense strain.

Personal tragedies and Darwin's landmark search that cast doubt on the existence of God took a heavy toll on his pious wife. Hardly a picnic for the actors, but they're justifiably proud of their

Darwin circled the globe developing his theory of evolution, published in 1859 as On

the Origin of Species. He said that life evolved through natural selection not through God's intelligent design. His book revolutionized 19th century thinking and remains one of the most important "discoveries" in human history.

According to the film, Darwin held off publication for Emma's

sake and because of his severe depression over the loss of their daughter An-nie, who was said to be the "apple" of his and his muse. Creation is based on keep-sakes of Annie that Darwin collected that his great-great-

grandson Randal Keynes Darwin discovered in 2000. Bettany says

he keenly aware of the re-sponsibility of play-ing one of the greatest, most innovamodern tive thinkers.

"He's been dead for a long while, so no one can really challenge There is so much research available to you that it's

intimidating, and frustratbecause ing, you always think the an-swer's in the books, the pile of books that you still haven't read.



I can't possibly deliver the human being who possibly came up with the arguably the greatest idea human beings have ever come up with, I can't bring that intelligence for real

"But I know about loss, I do know about madness, and I do know about relationships, and I do know about children. I know about those things and I know what they feel like and those things ground me. And then I try to look intelligent staring at parti-

Emma Darwin was a "charming, intelligent, and cultured cousin" who was often perceived as cold. "As a mother she really suffered the

losses of her children,'

Creation and Legion says Connelly. "I think obare both in viously it was devtheatres tomorrow astation for her, but it was imperative that she be

represented as strong and formidable as she was, so I endeavoured to portray a woman with great restraint and dignity. She didn't indulge her suffering but she felt very deeply these losses ... It was an effort to restrain it and keep it in. That is the way the Victorians were."

Director Jon Amiel says Connelly knew the unsympathetic role was risky. "Many actors are undone by their need to have the audience love them. Emma was to outward appearance quite stern and intensely reserved but an intensely emotional woman underneath. What's so moving is often when a character is unable to display an emotion, we feel it on her behalf. Jen's restraints in playing her made her so intensely moving."

Bettany's wades into vastly different territory in the vampire horror fantasy Legion, also in theatres tomorrow.

"Our vampires are very different," he They're much more ani-I love vampire movies, I love zombie movies, and it's a bit of a guilty pleasure.'

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Music makes Fantastic Mr. Fox moments

MUSIC IN FILM As the credits of Wes Anderson's Fantastic Mr. Fox began to roll and the Bobby Fuller Four's Let Her Dance blared through the theatre at a recent showing of the movie, a young girl leapt to her feet and joined the on-screen characters, dancing in the aisle.

The endings of his films - from Bottle Rocket to The Royal Tenenbaums constitute some of the most indelible final reels in recent moviemaking. They almost uniformly

conclude in a poetic moment of togetherness, perseverance and, often, a wink of mischief, (Spoiler alert)

After a long battle both with the farmers and within his fractured, idiosyncratic family, Mr. Fox though scarred — tri-umphs. His family is still stuck underground, but Mr. Fox discovers how they'll survive. The film ends with the group dancing in the aisles of a grocery store, owned by the same farmers bent on the animals' destruction. The ending came from Dahl's original manuscripts, not the published version.

"It was only when we had the song did I get, 'Here's what the mood is, here's what we're going to walk out of the theatre with," says the 40-year-old director. "The scene exists because of the song.'

Anderson's endings are almost like distillations of his entire work. Again and again, he meticulously creates characters of wit, audacity and melancholy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Bettany in Legion



Planet Organic on the south side offers food information sessions on a number of topics. Thursday, Jan. 28, 6:30-8 p.m. Visit planetorganic.ca for a schedule and future events! CHRISTOPHER THRALL/FOR METRO EDMONTON

entertainment 21

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Should you visit West Edmonton Mall on a Saturday and I'm not for a moment suggesting you should — you face a quandary. Among the generally lousy fast food spots, where should you trust your dollar and diet?

Hoang Long's other two Edmonton locations are busy, but I doubt they could hold a candle to the narrow storefront in front of the T&T Supermarket. We happened to walk up as the owner was clearing off the only available table and he quickly offered it to us.

From the extensive



Four-colour vermicelli bowl (\$10.50)

menu of salads, appetizers and main courses, I or-dered the four-colour vermicelli bowl (\$10.50) along with a "green dragon' fresh fruit beverage (\$5).

In no time at all, despite

the packed house and tiny kitchen, I was savouring the scent of my meal. I splashed some of the housemade sauce over the generous portions of meat, noodles and shredded lettuce before

digging in with my chopsticks. Other than the bland spring rolls, the bowl was terrific — but the spotlight was stolen by my green dragon. The enormous vat of cold, thick juice exploded in flavours of tart lime, sweet apple and bracing mint.

On my next ill-advised trip to WEM, I'll be sure to try one of the other four dragons.

On the web

 Get recipes and more great food content metronews.ca/recipes

In **brief**

JAZZ IT UP The Red Piano is a Cajun bistro on West Edmonton Mall's Bourbon Street that features duelling red Grand pianos every weekend. Try out a laid-back "Jazz and Shiraz" Wednesday night and sample the jambalaya or drunken chicken. Dress code and entertainment fees in effect - visit

theredpiano.ca for details. **OPENING** At the beginning of February, the Art Gallery of Alberta opens along with three new options on Edmonton's culinary scene! ZINC resto lounge will feature intimate dinners, group celebrations or casual lunches made of fresh Alberta ingredients, served in stunning surroundings. The Terrace Café will offer deli sandwiches, pastries and fresh fruit on the third level of the Gallery, Finally, the L1 Espresso Bar will serve fresh coffee and pastry. Visit YourAGA.ca for details.



• Diane Thompson is always in hot pursuit something good to eat. Check out metronews.ca/ globalpeasant to learn about unearthing onions in January.

Dining out

Fork Fest is back! From Sunday to Thursday next week, several independent local bistros are offering affordable, multi-course meals to tempt you into trying something new. I

won't miss The Red Ox Inn's goat cheese salad, seared Arctic char and white chocolate bread pudding. Visit originalfare.com to see the list of restaurants offering these \$25 or \$45 delights.

TOP 5 CHIROPRACTORS RECOMMENDED BY METRO READERS

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DR. GREG STILES

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HEALTH STAR CHIROPRACTIC

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HELWIG FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC

"Jason and Carla are 2 of the best chiropractors in town. I recommend them to all of my friends."

NEXT WEEK'S TOP 5 – MORTGAGE BROKERS

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22 entertainment



She's still holding out for her true love, Jack Daniels

Kate Moss would like to elope with Jamie Hince, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The supermodel reportedly received a proposal from The Kills rocker on her 36th birthday last Saturday but insisted she doesn't want to marry him yet. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Amy sentenced to two years of 'good behaviour'

COURTHOUSE ERUPTED INTO GALES OF LAUGHTER, THE JUDGE BOWED AND SAID, 'THANK YOU. I'LL BE HERE ALL WEEK! Amy Winehouse has pleaded guilty to common assault and femaledisorder. first.co.uk reports.

The singer appeared Keynes in Milton Magistrates Court yesterday morning to answer charges relating to an incident last month, where lashed out at a theatre manager after interrupting a performance with a foul-mouthed out-



tion to her victim

Passing sentence, district judge Peter Crabtree said it was clear alcohol had played a massive part in the incident.

He said, "Mr. Pound is a person whose job involves interaction with the public. If he's assaulted he deserves the court's protec-tion. In this case it's obvious that alcohol played its

The judge said he felt the sentence was appropriate because it would force the singer — who has a history of drug abuse problems to maintain good behav-METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lohan mom under fire again for bad parenting

AND IN OTHER NEWS, THE SKY IS BLUE AND JOHN MAYER IS ANNOYING Lindsay Lohan is allegedly abusing herself again, sources tell Radar Online. A

e. A red suspicious mark was spotted on the actress' arm as she headed to a party at the Chateau Marmont recently with mom Ďina Lohan, and sources allegedly

say it's proof that Lindsay is cutting - something she's been accused of in the past.

"Why is Dina out partying with Lindsay when it's clear she's still cutting herself?" the source asks. "Dina should be getting Lindsay help, not following her to parties.

> METRO WORLD NEWS

Kournikova's mother charged with child neglect

IS HER MAIDEN NAME LOHAN. BY ANY CHANCE? Kournikova's mom, Alla Kournikova, is in hot water after allegedly leaving her five-year-old son at home alone in Palm Beach to errands, during which time the boy fell or jumped out of a second-story window, according to WPTV in Florida. The boy was re-

portedly found cryscreaming ing. and bleeding by neighbours, and Alla was arrested and charged with child neglect. METRO WORLD

Celeb**Tweets**

ION FAVREAU wants to play dressup, PARIS HILTON recognizes some of her fami ly members in a movie, and

demonstrates her business pedigree.

IVANKA TRUMP

@Jon Favreau Visited the Thor set, I would look cool in one of those costumes. @ParisHilton Just finished watching 'Teenage Mutant Ninia Turtles' the movie haha

@IvankaTrump Drove by a car dealership w/ a huge sign saying "Our best deals of the year." It's Jan 19th, how good a deal can that



Brooke's wisdom tooth delays Sheen case

THE LAST THING SHE NEEDS IS tend Wednesday's hearing TO HAVE MORE WISDOM RE-MOVED A hearing this week in Charlie Sheen's domestic violence case has been delayed two days because his wife Brooke Mueller had to have a wisdom tooth removed, a source tells People.

"She has been ordered by the doctor to stay in bed for 72 hours," the source close to Mueller

Mueller's attorney had filed court papers asking that she be allowed to atin an Aspen, Co-



phone, but the judge instead set the session for Friday because the law requires both Mueller and Sheen to appear in person.

Sheen, 44, was arrested Dec. 25 after Mueller called 911 saying the actor threatened her. judge issued a temporary restraining order against

Sheen keeping him away from Mueller but not their 10-monthold sons METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mayer confirms what we already know

KEY'S MOUTH John Mayer isn't proud of the way things ended with Jennifer Aniston, usmagazine.com reports. "I've never really gotten over it," he tells the latest issue of Rolling Stone. "It was one of the worst times of my life."

The singer, 32, first got cozy with the actress, 40, in April 2008 after spending five sexy days together

went on to split twice most recently last January, in which he held an impromptu press confer-



take the blame for the breakup with America's sweetheart.

"I'm the a—hole," he ys. "I burned the American flag. I basically murdered an ide-

METRO WORLD

Woods rehab pic sends handlers into frenzy

UNLESS HE WAS HOLDING A CUP OF BOOBS, I FAIL TO SEE THE PROBLEM HERE A new paparazzi image of Tiger Woods has surfaced (see it on RadarOnline), potentially ruining his handler's plan to release a carefully staged photograph of Tiger with his wife and children looking happy together, popeater.com reports.

"At the moment it's all about regaining control of the golfer's image," an insider

popeater.com. "The plan was to let an appropriate time pass and

then issue one photograph wide to everyone the media showing the famiback together. 'This

not the first picture of Tiger his handlers wanted the world to see. This is another PR nightmare for

In the paparazzi photo, Woods is seen looking at the camera, holding a cup and covering his head with a hooded sweatshirt. It's the first photo of the golf great since his Thanksgiving Day car wreck that led his infidelity scandal. He's now reportedly in a Mississippi sex addiction clinic, according to Radar.

> METRO NEWS SERVICES



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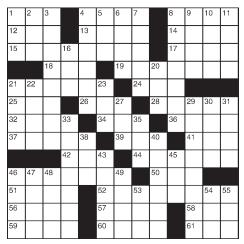




rialist & Host – Breakfast



Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		1	5		9	8		
7		9				4	5	
				1	6			
				2	7	5		3
6								2
5		2	6	3				
			7	4				
	5	8				3		7
		6	3		8	9		

- -jongg 4 Visibility hindrance 8 Be a model 12 Sch. org. 13 Ugandan despot 14 Easter
- emblem 15 Sharp turns 17 Shaving cream add-in
- 18 Knock 19 Surmised 21 Nicklaus contemporary
- 24 Corrode 25 Foreman rival 26 Pinch 28 Incenses 32 Equivoques
- 34 Tie up the phone 36 Manage somehow
- 37 Modify 39 Knight's address
- 41 Once called 42 Scull need 44 Big Mac or

Whopper 46 Fame 50 Doo follower

- 51 Diner employ-52 Terrier type
- 56 Heche or Hathaway 57 List-ending abbr.
- 58 401(k) alternative 59 Stagger
- 60 Say it ain't so 61 Roulette bet

- 1 Speedometer stat - standstill 3 Tiny, as a frac-
- fure 4 Occur 5 Parisian pal
- 6 Pizzazz 7 Follow as a result
- 8 Credit cards 9 Rembrandt creations
- 10 With 11-Down, having

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

4 6 1

3 7 9

2 9 7

8 5

7 5 2

8 1 6

3 4

dark peepers 11 See 10-Down 16 Aries 20 Corn spike 21 One of the

Three Bears 22 Astringent 23 Horse and

- buggy, e.g. 27 de deux 29 Classical-music lover
- 30 Foil's cousin 31 Crystal gazer 33 Diver's aid
- 35 Chest protector 38 Pop
- 40 Without courtesy 43 Used 42-
- Across
- 45 "Go, team!" 46 Cicatrix
- 47 Sound quality 48 Top-notch
- 49 Wee parasite 53 Scooted 54 Anger
- 55 "Way cool!"

7 3 2 5 9 8

2 1 4

1 4 3

4 8 9

3 2 5

9

7 2

6 8 5

5 2 8 4 1 9 6 3 7

8 5 6

1 4 3

2 9 7

3 6 1

9 7 4

It happens whenever I pay

lose attention to the new:

9 4 3 5 2 8

Metro Recipe of the Day

Fresh Healthy Tomato Cabbage Soup

Submitted by Irene Leung,

INGREDIENTS:

1/4 wedge of cabbage (green or red) 2 fresh tomatoes 1 carton (1 litre) of chicken broth 1 Slice (1/8 inch thick) of

fresh ginger 1 splash of hot sauce (optional)

METHOD:

1. Pour entire carton of chicken broth into a large saucepan and add a slice of ginger into it and bring to a boil.

2. While the broth is boiling, cut cabbage into 1/2 inch strips and cut tomatoes into wedges.

3. Put the cabbage, tomatoes and hot sauce (if

using) into the hot broth and bring to a boil. 4. After it has been boiled, simmer for about 5-10 minutes until cabbage is tender and tomatoes have broken down in smaller chunks. You can add salt and pepper to taste if desired but I find the salt in the broth is enough. 5. Ladle soup, cabbage and tomatoes into bowls and serve piping hot with crackers or a slice of crusty bread.

SERVES 2-4

PREP TIME: 5 MINUTES COOK TIME: 15 MINUTES



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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20 If you can't handle something alone then by all means ask for assistance. Friends and family will rally round if you ask

them So ask them LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

You will find the confidence to make changes today, and the sooner you start making them the sooner you will see the results that you long for.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21 You will find it easier than ever

to make a good impression, but don't try too hard - make it seem as if you are doing them a favour

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22 Cosmic activity in the domestic area of your chart will make it easier for you to explain to others some of the actions

GEMINI

On the web

Cafe Lu

The truth must be told and you are the one who must tell it. Don't be afraid to point out where the so-called experts are wrong.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21
You will find it remarkably easy to get people to do what you ask of them today

CANCER

Your attitude towards an issue that involves money, investments or property will harden today and you will refuse to make changes.

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20 Forget about flattery, forget

about threats — colleagues will respond best to facts and fig-

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

Spell out what it is you are going to be doing over the next few weeks and what it will mean not just for yourself but for other people too.

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18

There can be no more excuses for putting off things that should have been finished by

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

You must let certain people know that you do not exist merely for their convenience.

PISCES

FFR 19-MARCH 20

Solar and planetary activity in the most sensitive area of your chart means you must consciously and continually strive to stay cheerful.



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One Hour Engagement Session with 25 prints, CD of files and canvas print

Jennifer Scott Bridal A Glamourous Customized Bridal Gown

Kaya Kama Hammam Spa 3 Chemical Peels & Microdermabrasion Facial

Kelly Redinger Studios Sterling Engagement Photo Session

Kuhlmann's Floral Boutique \$500 Gift Certificate

Ladybird Bridal Design One Bride's Birdcage veil & 3 Matching, Smaller Bridesmaid Birdcage Hair Clips.

Scade Photography One Couples Session with Disc

Silver Stallion Limousine Service Free Bachelorette Party up to Two Hours -Subject to Availability

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Studio Four Twelve Photography A Memory Wedding Package

Sublime Swim & Sunwear Two \$250 Gift Cards

Survivor Boot Camp Two Six Week Passes - Three Days Per Week

The Bridal Boutique \$500 Gift Certificate

The Fairmont Hotels & Resorts (Rocky Mountain Properties) Two Night B&B Package at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise

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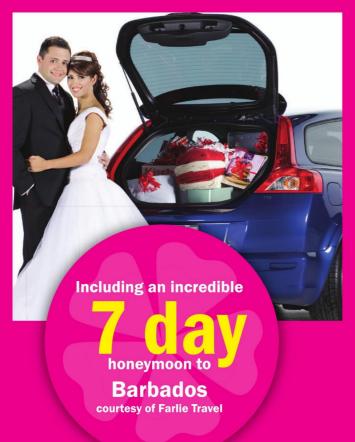
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